

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Mark Blasdel, on February 14, 2011 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 152  
Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Mark Blasdel, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Dick Barrett, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Mike Miller, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Alan Hale (R)  
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)  
Rep. Austin Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Steve Lavin (R)  
Rep. Sue Malek (D)  
Rep. Mary McNally (D)  
Rep. Jerry O'Neil (R)  
Rep. Mike Phillips (D)  
Rep. Lee Randall (R)  
Rep. Kathleen Williams (D)  
Rep. Max Yates (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)  
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)

**Members Absent:** Rep. Kelly Flynn (R)  
Rep. Janna Taylor (R)

**Staff Present:** Lisa Adams, Committee Secretary  
Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 397, 2/10/2011

**HEARING ON HB 397****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:01 Rep. James Knox (R), HD 47, opened the hearing on HB 397, Provide for education funds for school choice and home schooling.

[EXHIBIT\(tah36a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah36a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah36a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah36a04\)](#)

00:03:02 Rep. Taylor arrived.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:12:49 Pat Wagman, Montana Family Foundation

00:14:11 Barbara Rush, self

[EXHIBIT\(tah36a05\)](#)

00:15:33 Laef Olson, Chief Officer, Right Now

00:17:34 Susan Gianforte, Right Now

00:20:25 Curt Almy, self

00:23:39 Glenn Bliss, self

00:26:32 Thane Johnson, self

00:31:45 Bob Fowler, student, St. Andrew School, Helena

00:35:27 Ashley Oliverio, self

00:36:01 Rep. Hale left.

00:37:21 Christine Patton, student, St. Andrew School, Helena

00:37:51 Rep. Phillips left.

00:38:01 Rep. Hale arrived.

00:39:17 Sharon Nason, Licensed Clinical Counselor

00:40:10 Rep. Knudsen left.

00:40:11 Rep. Flynn arrived.

00:42:01 Helena Lee, self

[EXHIBIT\(tah36a06\)](#)

Due to technical errors following a power outage, the full audio file that corresponds to these minutes was not recovered. The meeting continued after the power outage. You will note that the time stamps restart at zero at the point audio was restored.

00:00:00 Ivan Small, Director of Schools, St. Labre Indian Catholic Schools

00:00:37 Rep. Phillips and Rep. Knudsen arrived.

00:02:21 Harris Himes, Montana Eagle Forum

00:03:15 Pat McCain, self

00:04:09 Dallas Erickson, self

00:04:11 Rep. Flynn left.

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:04:48 Eric Feaver, Montana Education Association - Montana Federation of Teachers (MEA-MFT)

[EXHIBIT\(tah36a07\)](#)

00:16:21 Madalyn Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Office of Public Instruction (OPI)  
00:18:34 Rep. Randall left.  
00:20:12 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)  
**EXHIBIT(tah36a08)**  
00:21:22 Rep. Randall arrived.  
00:23:34 Steve Malloy, Executive for Montana Board of Education  
00:23:51 Rep. Phillips left.  
00:26:25 Rep. Flynn arrived.  
00:26:44 Chris Cavazos, Political Director, Montana American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrialized Organizations (MT AFL-CIO)  
00:27:43 Darrell Rud, Executive Director, School Administration of Montana (SAM)  
00:29:34 Tara Veazey, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)  
00:33:05 Mark Lambrecht, Executive Director, Montana Quality Education Coalition  
00:35:47 Chairman Blasdel gave reference to a letter from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

**EXHIBIT(tah36a09)****Informational Testimony:**

00:36:11 Tim Keller, Attorney, Institute for Justice  
00:36:32 Rep. Barrett  
00:36:39 Chairman Blasdel  
00:36:50 Rep. Barrett  
00:36:55 Chairman Blasdel  
00:37:00 Mr. Keller  
00:39:25 Rep. Barrett  
00:39:40 Rep. O'Neil left.  
00:39:48 Chairman Blasdel, Mr. Keller was placed as a proponent as well.  
00:40:24 Mr. Keller  
00:41:39 Russ Wahl, Montana Coalition of Home Educators

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:42:55 Rep. Barrett  
00:43:02 Ms. Quinlan, OPI  
00:43:06 Rep. Barrett  
00:43:22 Rep. Hale left.  
00:43:52 Ms. Quinlan  
00:44:07 Rep. Barrett  
00:44:14 Ms. Quinlan  
00:44:14 Rep. Barrett  
00:44:22 Ms. Quinlan  
00:45:51 Rep. Barrett  
00:46:20 Ms. Quinlan  
00:46:26 Rep. Randall left.  
00:47:27 Rep. Barrett  
00:47:33 Vice Chairman Miller  
00:47:49 Ms. Quinlan  
00:48:30 Vice Chairman Miller  
00:48:41 Ms. Quinlan  
00:48:54 Rep. Williams

00:49:00	Rep. Knox
00:49:12	Rep. Williams
00:49:18	Rep. O'Neil arrived.
00:49:22	Rep. Knox
00:49:31	Rep. Williams
00:49:35	Rep. Knox
00:49:44	Rep. Williams
00:50:14	Ms. Quinlan
00:50:25	Rep. Randall arrived.
00:51:32	Rep. Hoven
00:52:08	Mr. Almy
00:52:29	Rep. Hoven
00:52:36	Rep. Knox
00:52:37	Rep. Hoven
00:53:05	Rep. Knox
00:53:28	Vice Chairman Miller
00:53:31	Rep. Knox
00:53:35	Vice Chairman Miller
00:53:46	Rep. Knox
00:54:09	Vice Chairman Miller
00:54:23	Rep. Knox
00:54:33	Vice Chairman Miller
00:54:50	Rep. Knox
00:55:23	Rep. O'Neil
00:55:27	Rep. Knox
00:55:29	Rep. O'Neil
00:55:48	Rep. Knox
00:56:21	Rep. Flynn
00:56:25	Rep. Knox
00:56:29	Rep. Flynn
00:56:46	Rep. Knox
00:58:03	Rep. Hale arrived.
00:58:30	Rep. McNally
00:59:10	Rep. Knox
01:00:29	Rep. McNally
01:00:31	Rep. Knox
01:00:39	Rep. McNally
01:01:09	Rep. Knox
01:02:12	Rep. Malek
01:02:37	Rep. Knox
01:03:09	Rep. Malek
01:03:26	Rep. Knox
01:03:47	Rep. Malek
01:04:02	Rep. Knox
01:04:11	Rep. Malek
01:04:30	Rep. Knox
01:05:01	Rep. Malek
01:05:36	Rep. Knox
01:06:12	Rep. Malek
01:06:24	Rep. Knox

01:07:00	Rep. Barrett
01:07:02	Rep. Knox
01:07:05	Rep. Barrett
01:07:31	Rep. Knox
01:07:36	Rep. Barrett
01:07:56	Rep. Knox
01:08:29	Rep. Barrett
01:08:56	Rep. Knox
01:09:38	Rep. Barrett
01:10:06	Rep. Knox
01:10:51	Rep. Barrett
01:11:11	Rep. Knox
01:11:40	Rep. Barrett

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:11:46	Rep. Knox
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01:19:26	Chairman Blasdel
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**ADJOURNMENT**

01:20:10      Adjournment: 11:15am

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Lisa Adams, Secretary

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**Additional Documents:**

**[EXHIBIT](#)**(tah36a10)

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**(**[tah36aad.pdf](#)**)